
Giving to God

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

“Worshipping with my wallet”

Roger had a good job in construction. He and his wife both had good incomes. They had a comfortable home, adequate cars and all of their needs met. They were talking with their pastor about the blessing of their current financial situation.

“We've been feeling a special calling to give above our regular tithe. We want to ask you about personal needs that you may know about in the lives of others in the congregation or among our missionaries.” The pastor was able to direct them to church members in need. On three other occasions, Roger and his wife had already given special, “over-and-beyond” gifts. Each time they had experienced the Lord's blessing and a deep feeling of purpose.

Reflection

Roger and his wife have experienced a part of worship that many Christians have not yet tapped in to. These experiences of worship could be more frequent if we understood the principle of the church meeting needs. Those with the ability to share wealth should give to those in need. Giving is only one of several areas of worship in which Christians should increase their experience. It has been said that you can tell a person's heart and loyalties by observing where they spend their money. If your checkbook register were exposed, what would it show?

Accountability and Application

If you are currently not giving to God according to the biblical standard, what plan could you make to correct the pattern?

If a man in an accountability group asked to see your checkbook, would you be ashamed or proud of how it reflects your integrity in giving to God?

Prayer: Lord, I acknowledge that all I have belongs to you. Help me to manage your resources in a way that honors you and meets the needs of my family.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (New International Version)

Generosity Encouraged

¹And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. ⁵And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will.